AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 14 without prejudice. Please amend claims 1, 2, 9, 12-19 and 21-23. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for file transfer, comprising:

retrieving a file by a controller from a sender location in accordance with a scheduling order created by a sender using a screen-based interface; and

transmitting a file using a satellite communications link in accordance with a the scheduling order ~~created by a sender using a screen-based interface specifying pickup and delivery instructions for the file~~.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising confirming to a provider of the file that the file has been transmitted ~~to a provider of the file~~.

3.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the transmitting is simultaneously performed to selected destinations that are part of a predefined group excluding some destinations in a geographic area.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving the scheduling order from a user, the scheduling order also specifying at least one location and time for retrieval of the file.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising checking facility availability in response to receiving the scheduling order.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising sending a confirmation notice to the user after checking facility availability.

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7.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising converting the format of the file.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the file for a predetermined amount of time.

9.   (Currently Amended) A system for file transfer, comprising:

a transmitter for transmitting a file from a sender using a satellite communications link in accordance with a scheduling order created by a the sender using a screen-based interface specifying instructions on file pickup from a sender location and file delivery instructions for the file; and

a controller, coupled to the transmitter and the sender, for retrieving and delivering the file in a accordance with the scheduling order.

10   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9, further comprising means for confirming to a provider of the file that the file has been transmitted to a provider of the file.

11   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, wherein the transmitting is simultaneously performed to selected destinations that are part of a predefined group excluding some destinations in a geographic area.

12.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9, wherein the controller further comprising comprises a processor for receiving the scheduling order from a usersender, and wherein the scheduling order also specifying specifies at least one location and time for retrieval of the file.

13.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 912, wherein the processor is also for checking facility availability in response to receiving the scheduling order.

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14. (Cancelled) ~~The system of claim 9, wherein the processor is also for sending a delivery notice to a destination for the file before transmitting the file.~~

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9~~9~~12, ~~further comprising a~~ wherein the processor is for converting the format of the file.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9, further comprising a data storage for storing the file for a predetermined amount of time <u>after the file is retrieved by the controller</u>.

17. (Currently Amended) A user interface for scheduling a file transfer, via a satellite communications system comprising:

a terminal for displaying a data screen to a sender, the data screen including two or more of the following fields specifying a file location, size, pickup time, payment type, confirmation type and delivery time, and

means for sending information ~~entered through~~ <u>displayed on</u> the data screen to a ~~central system~~ <u>controller for picking up and delivering the file being transferred</u>.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for file reception, comprising:

receiving a file that has been transmitted using a satellite communications link in accordance with a scheduling order<u>, wherein the scheduling order is</u> created by a sender using a screen-based interface <u>and</u> ~~specifying~~ <u>comprises instructions to a controller for file pickup <u>from a sender location</u> and <u>file</u> delivery ~~instructions for the file~~.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising confirming <u>to a provider of the file</u> that the file has been received ~~to a provider of the file~~.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the file has been transmitted by multicasting.

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21.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising confirming availability, by the controller, of delivery according to a scheduling order, and wherein the confirming of availability occurs before the receiving of the file.

22.   (Currently Amended) A system for file reception, comprising:

a receiver for receiving a file that has been transmitted using a satellite communications link in accordance with a scheduling order, wherein the scheduling order is created by a sender using a screen-based interface and specifying comprises instructions to a controller for file pickup from a sender location and file delivery time for the file.

23.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22, further comprising means for confirming to a provider of the file that the file has been received to a provider of the file.

24.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, wherein the file has been transmitted by multicasting.

25.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, further comprising means for confirming the availability for delivery according to the scheduling order.

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